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March 11, 2000

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Ms. Jane Henney, M.D.  
Commissioner  
Food and Drug Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Dr. Henney

It has come to my attention that you are considering a new regulation requiring an exam and a hearing test before a person can purchase hearing aids. I urgently request that you file that proposed regulation in file 13! I do not want the government telling me where I will purchase my hearing aids nor telling me to have an exam. Your predecessors tried that and found out what the consumers thought of the idea. Are you going to succumb to pressure from the medical community?

I have had 3 exams and hearing tests over the years including the final exam when I retired at Bolling Field in 1966 after nearly 30 years service. I was marginal in 1966 and a little less able to hear easily now. I have purchased hearing aids from a local firm which supposedly had an M.D.(who never appeared) which were far from satisfactory. I now use aids purchased from EXCEL which I find very satisfactory. Furthermore, I receive a far better warranty than is provided by local firms.

Please forget that proposed regulation.

Sincerely,

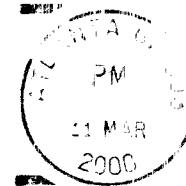
  
Leslie A. Tenold

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Ms JANE HENNEY, M.D.  
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